

REMARKS

This reply is responsive to the Office Action mailed on May 17, 2006. Claims 1-27 are pending in the application. Claim 1 is canceled without prejudice. Claim 2 is amended by this Response to be placed in independent form. Claims 8-11, 14, 16-18, and 23 were amended to depend from independent claim 2. Reconsideration in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takagi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,999,691, issued December 7, 1999) (Takagi). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 1 is canceled without prejudice by the Response thereby rendering its rejection moot.

Takagi discloses a television receiver comprises a tuner for receiving a television video signal; data storage device including a data storage unit for storing the video signal received by the tuner, for its storage capacity, a writing pointer for time-sequentially writing the video signal into the data storage unit, and a reading pointer for reading the stored video signal; select circuit for selecting and outputting one of the reproduced video signal output from the data storage means device and the video signal received by the tuner; and control circuit for controlling the data storage device and the select circuit in response to an external input signal.

The Examiner's attention is directed to the fact that Takagi fails to disclose "tuning a second tuner of said plurality of tuners to at least one subsequent channel to select subsequent channel content for viewing while simultaneously performing said caching step, said subsequent channel replacing said original channel as said viewed channel", as recited in independent claim 2. Specifically independent claim 2 recites:

2. A method for recording content using a personal versatile recording apparatus, said personal versatile recording apparatus having a plurality of tuners, wherein recordable content is individually selectable by each tuner of said plurality of tuners, the method comprising:

tuning a first tuner of said plurality of tuners to an original channel to select original channel content for viewing, the original channel being a viewed channel;

caching said original channel content to a cache while presenting said original channel content for viewing; and

tuning a second tuner of said plurality of tuners to at least one subsequent channel to select subsequent channel content for viewing while simultaneously performing said caching step, said subsequent channel replacing said original channel as said viewed channel. (emphasis added)

In contrast, Takagi discloses, in the passage cited by the Examiner, that a user who is viewing Program A on CH1 continues to view Program A while initiating storage of the portion of a second program, Program D on CH2, that begins before Program A is complete. Takagi does **not** disclose the caching of original channel content while presenting subsequent channel content for viewing. Takagi **only** discloses the recording of a second program, Program D on CH2, while continuing to view the first program, Program A on CH1. The passage of Takagi cited by the Examiner is completely devoid of the teaching to cache original channel content while viewing subsequent channel content as recited by Applicants' independent claim 2.

Therefore claim 2, is patentable over Takagi. As such, claims 3-9 are patentable over Takagi at least by virtue of depending either directly or indirectly from independent claim 2.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

A. Claims 9, 10, and 14-17

Claims 9, 10, and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takagi in view of Kuroda (U.S. Patent No. 6,311,011, issued October 30, 2001). Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Examiner concedes that Takagi fails to disclose what is recited in claims 9, 10, and 14-17. In order to cure the Examiner's perceived deficiency, Kuroda is cited.

Kuroda discloses a video recorder for recording signal including audio and video signals, comprises a module for receiving program information signal designating a program identifier, starting and ending time of a program, a first storage device, a first recording module for continuously recording the content signal at least one channel in the first storage device, and a module for deleting the content signals of the oldest program recorded in the first storage device in reference with the program information signals. (Kuroda, Abstract)

As stated above in Section I., Takagi fails to teach "tuning a second tuner of said plurality of tuners to at least one subsequent channel to select subsequent channel content for viewing while simultaneously performing said caching step, said subsequent channel replacing said original channel as said viewed channel", as recited in independent claim 2. Kuroda does not cure this deficiency. As such, the combination of Takagi and Kuroda

fails to render claims 9, 10, and 14-17 obvious. Therefore, claims 9, 10, and 14-17 are patentable over Takagi and Kuroda.

B. Claims 11-13

Claims 11-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takagi and Kuroda in view of Isaka (U.S. Patent No. 5,706,388, issued January 6, 1998). Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Examiner concedes that Takagi and Kuroda fails to disclose what is recited in claims 11-13. In order to cure the Examiner's perceived deficiency, Isaka is cited.

Isaka discloses a recording system performs a reproducing operation for previously recorded information without stopping a recording operation for information currently being received. A video signal is received from an external video-signal-supplying source via a communication channel. The recording system is connected to a display unit having a screen. A recording medium is provided on which the video signal is recorded. A recording unit automatically records the video signal currently being received on the recording medium when a recording start command is received while an image according to the video signal currently being received is being projected. A reproducing unit reproduces the video signal recorded on the recording medium when a reproducing start command is received. A controlling unit controls operations of the recording unit and the reproducing unit so that the reproducing operation on the video signal previously recorded on the recording medium and the recording operation on the video signal currently being received are performed at the same time, and thereby the video signal currently being received is recorded on the recording medium while an

image is projected in accordance with the video signal previously recorded on the recording medium. (Isaka, Abstract)

As stated above in Section I., Takagi fails to teach “tuning a second tuner of said plurality of tuners to at least one subsequent channel to select subsequent channel content for viewing while simultaneously performing said caching step, said subsequent channel replacing said original channel as said viewed channel”, as recited in independent claim 2. Isaka does not cure this deficiency. As such, the combination of Takagi, Kuroda, and Isaka fails to render claims 11-13 obvious. Therefore, claims 11-13 are patentable over Takagi, Kuroda, and Isaka.

C. Claims 18-27

Claims 18-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takagi and Kuroda in view of Timmermans (U.S. Patent No. 5, 633,726, issued May 27, 1997). Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Examiner concedes that Takagi and Kuroda fails to disclose what is recited in claims 18-27. In order to cure the Examiner’s perceived deficiency, Timmermans is cited.

Timmermans discloses digitized picture information representing different pictures is stored in respective picture files. Each picture file has both digital picture data and presentation control information including at least orientation information for that picture. Respective additional presentation control information for the different pictures is contained in a separate control file. An apparatus for reading the information, for display on a television set, allows selective use of the presentation control information

recorded in the picture file or the corresponding control information in the separate control file. (Timmermans, Abstract)

As stated above in Section I., Takagi fails to teach “tuning a second tuner of said plurality of tuners to at least one subsequent channel to select subsequent channel content for viewing while simultaneously performing said caching step, said subsequent channel replacing said original channel as said viewed channel”, as recited in independent claim 2. Isaka does not cure this deficiency. As such, the combination of Takagi, Kuroda, and Timmermans fails to render claims 18-27 obvious. Therefore, claims 18-27 are patentable over Takagi, Kuroda, and Timmermans.

Conclusion

Having fully responded to the Office action, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should any issues arise that prevent early allowance of the above application, the examiner is invited contact the undersigned to resolve such issues.

To the extent an extension of time is needed for consideration of this response, Applicant hereby request such extension and, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account number 502117 for any fees associated therewith.

Date: 11/17/2006

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